

Page 6, line 18, after "the like," please add the sentence --Any means for removably securing the stud to the partition such as for example, without limitation, screws, nails, removable pins, adhesive, releasable adhesive, caulk, straps and the like.--.

A copy of the amended paragraphs are attached unmarked on a separate sheet as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.72.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Copies of the currently amended claims and added claim are attached on separate sheets with the changes shown by underlining (for added matter) or strikethrough (for deleted matter) as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.121.

Please cancel, amend and add claims as follows:

1 Claim 1 (canceled).

1 Claim 2 (canceled).

1 Claim 3 (currently amended) The universal stud for use with
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in
3 claim 12 ~~2~~ further comprising

4 (a) a second base having a first end and a second end, the
5 base having sufficient structure for removably engaging
6 at least one of the demountable wall partition and the
7 demountable ceiling panel, with the second end of the
8 second base fixedly secured to the second end of the first
9 base at a predefined angle,

- 10 (b) a plurality of arms extending from the second base, the
11 plurality of arms comprising
12 (1) a first arm extending from the first end of the
13 base,
14 (2) a second arm extending from the second end of
15 the base,
16 (3) a third arm extending from the base closer to the
17 first arm than the second arm,
18 (4) a fourth arm extending from the base closer to the
19 second arm than the first arm and between the
20 third arm and the second arm, such that
21 (5) an exterior channel is defined by the first arm, the
22 third arm and the base therebetween
23 (6) an interior channel is defined by the third arm, the
24 fourth arm and the base therebetween
25 (7) an inner channel is defined by the fourth arm and
26 the second arm

27 whereby the channels receive and removeably secure at least one of
28 the demountable wall partition and the demountable ceiling panel between
29 the channels.

1 Claim 4 (currently amended) The universal stud for use with
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in
3 claim 12 + further comprising means for removably securing the stud to the
4 partition.

1 Claim 5 (currently amended) The universal stud for use with
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 4
3 4 wherein the means for removably securing the stud to the partition adapted to
4 be selected from the group consisting of screws, nails, removable pins, adhesive,
5 releasable adhesive, caulk and straps.

1 Claim 6 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 4
3 wherein one demountable wall partition or demountable ceiling panel is used.

1 Claim 7 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 4
3 wherein two demountable wall partitions or demountable ceiling panels are used
4 such that a space is created therebetween.

1 Claim 8 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 4
3 wherein three demountable wall partitions or demountable ceiling panels are used
4 such that a space is created therebetween.

1 Claim 9 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 7
3 wherein two demountable wall partitions or demountable ceiling panels are used
4 with additional materials disposed in the space therebetween.

1 Claim 10 (previously presented) The universal stud for use with
2 demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 8

wherein three demountable wall partitions or demountable ceiling panels are used with additional materials disposed in the spaces therebetween.

Claim 11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (new) A universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and demountable ceiling panels comprising:

- (a) at least one base having a first end and a second end, the base having sufficient structure for removably engaging only one of a demountable wall partition and a demountable ceiling panel, and
- (b) a plurality of arms extending from the base such that two arms and the base define a channel for receiving one of the demountable wall partition and the demountable ceiling panel,

wherein the plurality of arms comprises

- (1) a first arm extending from the first end of the base,
- (2) a second arm extending from the second end of the base,
- (3) a third arm extending from the base closer to the first arm than the second arm,
- (4) a fourth arm extending from the base closer to the second arm than the first arm and between the third arm and the second arm, such that

- 21 (5) an exterior channel is defined by the first arm, the
22 third arm and the base therebetween,
23 (6) an interior channel is defined by the third arm, the
24 fourth arm and the base therebetween,
25 (7) an inner channel is defined by the fourth arm and
26 the second arm,
- 27 whereby the channels receive and removeably secure at least one of the
28 demountable wall partition and the demountable ceiling panel between the
29 channels such that the universal stud can be oriented to accept a demountable
30 wall partition, or, can be oriented to receive at least one of the demountable wall
31 partition and the demountable ceiling panel.